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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,245	06/23/2003	Len Chan	5306P098	1154

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EXAMINER

MOONEYHAM, JANICE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/602,245

Applicant(s)

CHAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jan Mooneyham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the applicant's communication filed on June 23, 2003.

Claims 1-24 are currently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bingham et al (US 2002/0069094) (hereinafter referred to as Bingham).

Referring to Claims 1, 9, and 17:

Bingham method, machine readable medium for providing instructions which cause the processor to perform the method (page 3 [0025]), and a system (Figs. 1, 2a, 2b, 3) for performing the method comprising:

receiving a request for a function space at a digital processing system, the digital processing system containing an availability information for one or more function spaces at a plurality of remote properties and a set of pricing rules for one or more function spaces, the request including a plurality of criteria (page 1 [0008], page 3 [0029], Fig. 4 (404), (410);

determining an availability of the requested function space based upon the availability information and one or more of the criterion (Fig. 5 (512) Are the Specified Meeting Facility Resources Available for Reservation?, page 1 [0008], page 4 [0033]) and

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determining a price for the requested function space based upon the set of pricing rules and one or more of the criterion (page 1 [0008], page 4 [0033], Fig. 5 (516) Price the Meeting Package Based on the Customer Profile).

Referring to Claims 2, 10, and 18:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system wherein the plurality of criteria includes criteria selected from a group of criteria consisting of date (arrival date, departure date), day-part (morning/afternoon), current demand (number of attendees, number of rooms) and supplementary sales ((Food and Beverage Information (Fig. 4 (404), Figs. 7-14).

Referring to Claims 3, 11, and 19:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system wherein the plurality of remote properties are individual hotels of a hotel chain (Figs. 11-12).

Referring to Claims 4, 12 and 20:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system further comprising providing the price for the requested function space to a user in real-time (page 1 [0008] – a customer profile associated with the user may be used to determine the *price* of the meeting package or its component resources. The meeting package may be defined or reserved based on various meeting facility criteria input by the user, *real time* facility inventory data, or facility reservation rules. Fig. 5 [516], page 4 [0033], page 5 [0038].

Referring to Claims 5, 13 and 21:

Bingham discloses method, medium and system further comprising:
receiving an acceptance of the price for the requested function space from the user; and

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establishing a reservation for the requested function space (Fig. 4 (416), Fig. 5 (516), Fig. 12 (confirmation number, grand total), page 5 [[0037]]).

Referring to Claims 6, 14 and 22:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system further comprising receiving a rejection of the price for the requested function space from the user; and providing alternatives to one or more of the plurality of criteria in real-time (Figs. 4-5, Fig. 11).

Referring to Claims 7, 15 and 23:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system wherein establishing a reservation for the requested function space includes allocating a function space of a specified category, the category specified by one or more category related criteria included in the plurality of criteria of the request (Figs. 4-5, page 1 [0008]).

Referring to 8, 16 and 24:

Bingham discloses a method, medium and system wherein the category related criteria include one or more criterion selected from the group consisting of attendance (Fig. 7 (706), event type (customer type Fig. 4) (page 4 [0033]), setup styles (Fig. 9 (906) (Setup Classroom) and area (Fig. 7 (708) (Figs 7-14).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Reservations Online and On Deadline discloses a online hotel booking options which is tied directly to the electronic reservation systems of participating hotels.

Tokan discloses a seat reservation system which enables customers to easily reserve a seat.

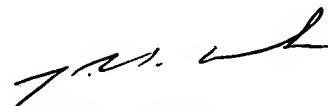
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jan Mooneyham whose telephone number is (703) 305-8554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (703) 308-2702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JM


JOHN G. WEISS
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